

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

PRS-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 RSC-01 /037 W

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R 181525Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2121

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THESSALONIKI 667

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, GR

SUBJECT: CENTER UNION ACTIVITIES

1. DURING CONVERSATION OCTOBER 17 WITH CONGEN OFF, THESSALONIKI LAWYER, LONG-TIME CU ACTIVIST AND CURRENT CANDIDATE FROM THESSALONIKI DINGAS-CHARDALIAS MADE FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT, BASED LARGELY ON 90 MINUTE PRIVATE MEETING WITH MAVROS IN ATHENS OCTOBER 12.

2. CENTER UNION EXPECTS LOSE SOME VOTES TO PAPANDREAOU PARTY (PASOK), BUT STILL OPTIMISTIC ABOUT PLURALITY NOVEMBER 17. NO UNDERSTANDING EXISTS BETWEEN MAVROS AND KARAMANLIS RE COOPERATION FOLLOWING ELECTION, AND CU AS PART OF CENTER HOPES TO BE ABLE TO FORM COALITION ON EITHER SIDE. COOPERATION WITH PASOK MIGHT, IN FACT, BE EASIER AND MORE CONSISTENT WITH PARTY PRINCIPLES. DINGAS HINTED THAT MAVROS MIGHT HAVE "OBLIGATION" TO SUPPORT CANNELLOPOULOS FOR PRESIDENT IF PRESIDENTIAL SYSTEM ADOPTED IN REFERENDUM AND MAVROS PM.

3. RE NEW DEMOCRACY (ND), DINGAS COMMENTED THAT KARAMANLIS LIKELY TO BE HARMED BY OBSOLETE POLITICAL STYLE AND POOR TV APPEARANCE, CONTINUING JUNTA INFLUENCE IN GOVERNMENT, FAILURE TO DISMANTLE "POLICE APPARATUS", AND NEW GAROUFALIAS PARTY WHOSE SUPPORTERS OTHERWISE COULD ONLY HAVE VOTED FOR  
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ND, ALSO NOTED THAT PM HAVING DIFFICULTY FINDING GOOD LOCAL

CANDIDATES AND CONTROLLING SELECTION PROCESS, CITING SEVERAL LOCAL FIGURES NAMED IN PRESS AS ND CANDIDATES BUT WHO ARE PROBABLY NOT PLANNING TO RUN.

4. DINGAS STATED CU NOW ATTEMPTING TO DISTINGUISH ITSELF FROM KARAMANLIS GOVERNMENT, PARTICULARLY ON ISSUE OF JUNTA INFLUENCE AND COMPLETE BREAK WITH PAST SEVEN YEARS. THERE NO TIME, HOWEVER, FOR FOR GENERAL MEETING OF CANDIDATES TO DECIDE ON "DEMOCRATIC" PLATFORM. DINGAS COMMENTED THAT RELATIONS WITH US, PARTICULARLY ON CYPRUS, WILL BE INEVITABLE CAMPAIGN THEME, BUT DOUBTED CU CAMPAIGN COMMITMENTS ON REMOVAL OF US BASES OR OTHER SPECIFIC ISSUES. DINGAS ADDED THAT RESTORATION OF GOOD RELATIONS ("ALTHOUGH PREVIOUS RELATIONSHIP OF TRUST CANNOT BE FULLY RESTORED") WOULD BE IN GREEK AND CU INTERESTS.

5. COMMENT: WHILE DINGAS REMARKS ON CU PROSPECTS PROBABLY OVERDRAWN, CONGEN TRANSMITTING ABOVE AS INDICATION OF LOCAL CANDIDATE'S THINKING AT THIS STAGE. DETAILED MEMCON SUMMARY FOLLOWS.  
BRENNAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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